

# MICHIGAN FARMER.

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## Education.

The following pithy and highly appropriate letter on the subject of education, was written to the North Western Educational Convention, which was recently held in this city. We need offer no apology for introducing it into our columns. The interests of agriculture and education are so identified, that it is difficult to separate the one from the other.

### LETTER FROM HON. SALEM TOWN.

AURORA, August 8th, 1848.

*Hon. Ira Mayhew:* Dear Sir—It was my intention to be present at your meeting on the 16th. As an individual, it would have afforded me great pleasure. As a Delegate from the New York Association, I should consider it still more desirable. Circumstances, however, are such as to deprive me, at this time, of the happiness I had in view.

The object contemplated by your Society is one of vast interest, not only to the western States, but the entire Union. The relations of an enlightened and virtuous community to National freedom and prosperity, are neither fancy nor fiction; and I cannot but feel the deepest solicitude in behalf of popular education. It is the birth right of every child of our country, and the main channel through which the very life-blood of a Republic flows. Each present generation must educate each succeeding one, and each succeeding one, will, in the main, be what the former has made it. Here then is a responsible agency from which there is *no escape*; and infidelity on the part of this generation, may bring down on our memories, the most withering reproaches of posterity, our country and the world.

We are evidently now standing between the past history of our country, and her future destiny, as yet to be recorded; and the exigency of the times on which we have fallen, demand action, speedy, efficient, unremitting action, as individuals, as communities, as a Nation. The safety of our Institutions requires it. The rapid improvements of the age in which we live; the resources of a vast domain, yet to be developed by Art and Science, require it. The commanding position we occupy on this western hemisphere, the relations we sustain to other countries, and above all, the influence this Nation is in the providence of God, most manifestly destined to exert on the intellectual and moral, the

political and religious condition of the world even, demand such efforts as no former age has yet called for.

I entertain no doubt, we are now educating that very generation, during whose life time the great question, as to our future National character, moral and intellectual, is to be decided; and whatever the result may be, the *present* generation will, to a great extent, be held responsible. The children of these United States are now coming up under that course of training with which *they* are to meet this momentous crisis. As a Nation, we are now demonstrating the great problem of universal suffrage, before the world. We are, therefore, called upon as men, as citizens, as christian philanthropists, to make *this* Nation the leading power of earth, in knowledge, in virtue, and in the science of human government, as a model worthy of imitation, and adoption by all other countries. Never, before, was a work of such magnitude committed to human agency. Never was there a people in whose hands providence had placed such ample means for its accomplishment. Never was a nation, planted on the globe with a more hopeful opportunity to become the universal benefactor of all mankind. We may as a people, we may as a nation even, disregard such considerations; but disregarded, disguised, or evaded as they may be, we cannot, as a nation, escape that tremendous responsibility, created by our own natural relationship to those countless millions yet to succeed us in this broad empire. Whatever, therefore, is done for those of the next generation, now coming up to manhood, must be done quickly. There is a tide in human affairs that waits not—moments even, on which the destiny of nations may balance. Such, I am constrained to believe, in view of the unprecedented increase of western population, is the point to which we are rapidly approaching. As the western states, as the great valley of the Mississippi *is one half century hence, so will this nation be*. Give her then, the puritan stamp of New England character *now*, and she will give the world the Bible, intelligence, freedom and morals too, in all coming time.

I doubt not the members of the Northwestern Educational Society, are actuated by a deep solicitude to advance the noble cause in which they are engaged; and as one who aided, in some small degree, in its formation, my sympathies have been wedded to its prosperity. I ardently hope the steady efforts of its members

will be crowned with triumphant success, in arousing the public mind of the great West, to dispel the gathering clouds of ignorance, and let in the clear sun-light of science, to that swelling empire of mind. That our nation may witness a development of intellectual ability, and moral power, that comports with the fertility of the soil our western brethren cultivate, and the resources of the country, in which they dwell.

You will accept, dear sir, my kind regards, and present the same to the Society. You are also at liberty to read this hasty sketch of miscellaneous thoughts to them if you think it worth your while, and believe me

Yours, &c., S. TOWN.

### Extract from Hon. John I. Slingerland's Report.

It is calculated that the division of the occupations of men in the United States is nearly in the following proportions:—

Number engaged in internal navigation.	33,076
do in ocean navigation.	56,021
do in the learned professions.	65,255
do in commerce.	119,607
do in manufactures.	791,749
do in agriculture.	3,719,951

Thus it will be seen that those who are engaged in agriculture are three and a half times greater in number than those in all the other divisions.—The agriculturists, consequently, have the physical and numerical power, and can at any time control every government in the United States, and give tone to public opinion. But do they? No, indeed; for however powerful they may be in number, they are weak in influence; and this arises from want of proper education. The sixty-five thousand two hundred and fifty-five, engaged in the learned professions, are intellectually stronger than the three millions seven hundred and nineteen thousand and nine hundred and fifty-one engaged in agriculture, and therefore rule them. If it were not so, seven-eighths of the offices in the country would not be held by lawyers and doctors; nor would all the colleges and high schools be endowed, principally, for the benefit of the learned professions.

Farmers, when will you arouse yourselves to the dignity and importance of your calling, and educate yourselves to that height of intelligence which will make you the *rulers*, instead of the *ruled*, of the other professions? There is surely nothing to prevent this, if you will only be true to yourselves. Every occupation in the country seems to be bountifully provided for, save that of the farmer; and surely no one is to blame for this but yourselves; for if you choose, you need only speak to your servants, your rulers, and a reform might be had at once.

There is no class in society who have at command more of the elements of public usefulness, of unshackled independence, and of true greatness, than the tillers of the soil—the noblest employment of life.

Education is too much neglected. We mean that sort of education which enlarges the human faculties, and teaches man his rights and his duties; and which enables him to bring the powerful energies of his mind to co-operate with the physical powers of his body. We see many of our farmers seeking to elevate their condition, by becoming innkeepers, merchants, or public officers; and others, as if ashamed of their calling, or not knowing how to estimate its advantages, sending their sons to study law, or to go in the mercantile business, in order to make them gentlemen.

Mistaken men! there are none in society more truly gentlemen than well educated, exemplary farmers; none so independent; none more useful; none so honorable; none who so largely realize and acknowledge the bounties of providence, or who so efficiently contribute to the happiness of the human family.

The human mind expands more on nature's broad domain than it can in the pent-up town; it sends abroad further the diffusive lights of its knowledge, and glows with a holier fervor of love to God, and good will to man.

Repeatedly has the propriety and expediency of the establishment of schools for the instruction of young men in the science and practice of agriculture been agitated.

Who, that has a son destined to be a carpenter, a blacksmith, or even a manufacturer of clothes, hesitates to appropriate years of his time to qualify him in his art! And does the farmer's art demand less instruction?

Here I may be permitted to make a suggestion which seems to me capable of being advantageously applied. It is to make it a part of the course of instruction in our common schools to learn the elements of agricultural science; the difference of soils and manures; the geological formation of the earth; the physiology of plants, and the philosophy of vegetation. I do not suppose that all boys at school can fully comprehend these subjects, in which the wisest can ever find something new; but they can acquire the original elements and when once impressed on the youthful mind with proper illustrations, they will never be entirely effaced. Like nursery tales, they will constantly be recurring to recollection, for instruction and delight.

We have our grammars and text books simplified to the lowest degree, on every other subject. Why should there not be such on agriculture?—Would there be any difficulty in collecting a cabinet of specimens in each of these schools for the illustration of all these subjects?

Without a common centre, without a foundation from which teachers are to be drawn, we shall look in vain for those qualified to teach. We want practical instruction. We want that kind of instruction which is calculated to qualify young men in the best manner for the real busi-

ness of life. We want institutions that shall combine theory with practice, so regulated that when our sons graduate they shall not then be under the necessity of beginning to learn.

I cannot otherwise so forcibly express my views of the importance of establishing agricultural schools, as by quoting the language of that most eminent friend of the farmer and of man, in his last address delivered at New Haven in 1839, the late Judge Buel, of Albany. "I pretend not," says he, "to the spirit of prophecy, yet I venture to predict that many who now hear me will live to see professional schools of agriculture established in our land, and to be induced to consider them the best nurseries for republican virtue, and the surest guarantee for the perpetuity of our liberties."

Accurate observers have estimated that more than half the young men from the country, who have left the rural pursuits of their fathers for the more fascinating employments of the city, have either been ensnared in the nets of vice, there spread at every corner, or been made frantic with the visionary dreams of speculation so that before the meridian of life, ruin has been their destiny.—Have we any reason to expect better things in future? Is there such an improvement in the moral condition of our cities, as to allay our fears? If heretofore one-half have been lost, what is now the prospect? Let the wise parent say which is the better, so to educate his sons that they may settle down around him, substantial, useful citizens, or send them to the cities to seek their fortunes, with the equal chance of terminating their career in infamy:

It should thus be one of the first and most important objects of the farmer, after having familiarized his son to habits of industry, and instructed him in those branches of labor fitted to boyhood and early youth, to provide for him the means of a regular system of education.

Independent of the actual profits arising from agricultural pursuits, there is something in the cultivation of the soil eminently calculated to dispose the philosophic mind to serious and sublime contemplation. But to him who looks from nature up to nature's God, and who can recognize the Deity in every expanding, opening flower, and purling rill, agriculture offers charms, calculated to compose the mind, and dispose it to tranquility and cheerfulness. To such a mind.

—Not a breeze

Flies o'er the meadow; not a cloud imbibes  
The setting sun's effulgence; not a strain  
From all the tenants of the warbling shade  
Ascends, but whence his bosom can partake  
Fresh pleasure unproved.

Who can look upon a field of wheat, gradually rising in vernal loveliness to the delighted eyes of the contemplative beholder, and mark it in all its stages until the ripe grain crowns the

hopes of the husbandman with a golden harvest of plenty, and then have the heart to distrust the protection of Providence, or doubt the existence of an All-wise intelligence pervading and governing all things? There is not a blade of grass, or ear of corn, that does not afford matter of curious and endless speculation to the inquisitive and well cultivated mind.

To be continued.

*Fresh Air.*—There is no department of practical art in which we are so much behind the English as in all that concerns the ventilation of apartments. In England, after a great deal of discussion upon the subject, in books and journals, the public mind is at length fully alive to the importance of having copious supplies of air in rooms where crowds are assembled; and it now forms as indispensable a subject of attention to the architect as the method of affording light by means of windows, or allowing entrance and exit through the medium of doors. In this country, the matter is entirely neglected.—\* \* \* The architects seem to think that if the rooms which they construct are not absolutely unwholesome—if people do not die, or at least, faint by scores, in an evening, they are placed beyond reproach.—They forget how much the comfort of people, far short of this point where the power of breathing is sensibly affected, is influenced by the purity and freshness of the atmosphere which they inhale. The buoyancy of the nervous system is diminished—the fine edge of enjoyment is taken off—an indistinct and nameless oppression clouds the faculties, depresses the spirits, and weighs upon the heart—long before any difficulty in the region of the lungs becomes sensible. The exhilaration of the feelings—the gayety of the temper—the happy vivacity of the mind—would be infinitely greater if a constant current of genial air were kept circulating through our dwellings and work shops. People in closely confined places, sometimes experience a gloominess and an irritation which they are unable to account for. They attribute it to the state of their health, while the real cause of the distress is their breathing carbonic acid, instead of oxygen.—*Home Journal.*

*Protection for Bees.*—Bees in their undomesticated state, have sufficient protection against the frost of winter in the thick sides of trees which they inhabit. A like protection was afforded by the straw hives formerly used; but the thin boards of which hives are now generally made, leave the bees so much exposed, that multitudes in almost every hive perish with cold, and not a few whole swarms. Burying them in the ground, and carrying them into cellars, have been practiced with good success; but these methods are inconvenient and not often adopted.

A method which I have for several years

adopted, I have found very convenient and successful. My bee house is so broad as to admit two rows of hives, one fronting one way and the other the opposite. I place my hives eight or ten inches apart, and fill the spaces between and about them with straw, leaving the mouths of the hives unobstructed. I leave the straw about the hives late in the spring, till the old bees and the young brood will be secure from injury from late frosts. I have generally used pea straw lest mice should enter it and molest the bees; but I have used clean threshed wheat straw, and have never suffered any injury from it.—*Exchange Paper.*

From the N. York Transactions.

### **Eradicating Canada Thistles.**

PRIZE ESSAY, BY SERENO E. TODD.

Concluded from last Number.

It is an invariable principle in the animal kingdom, that nothing can long survive if it is not permitted to breathe the pure air; and it is no less true in the vegetable kingdom. No plant, whether perennial, biennial, or triennial, can live long, if it is divested of its lungs. Now the leaves of the Canada thistle are the lungs. If, therefore, the top is cut off or smothered for a short time, the sap in the roots stagnates and they decay.

Cutting them with a hoe, or pulling them from the crevices of rocks, with the hands, by putting on leather mittens, I have never known to fail to eradicate totally any patch of thistles, however inveterate, when the labor has been performed at proper intervals during the season. Any patch of thistles may be entirely exterminated, by cutting them with a hoe four times in the season; if care is taken to cut every one, a little below the surface of the soil. I have killed many patches with the hoe, by going over them three times only; and on the third time but few were to be found. The intervals between times of cutting should be neither too long nor too short. The first cutting with a hoe, or pulling by hand, I perform before the stolens have started much, when the stem is about six inches in height. To cut or plow them once a week, will not be attended with as good success, as if the work were performed once in about four weeks. The reason for this is very obvious. When the Canada thistle commences growing in the spring of the year, it operates not dissimilar to a potatoe, exhausting the root to form the stem. And when the stem is about six or eight inches in height, the stolens commence growing. Then the root is partially exhausted of its substance; and being deprived of their lungs, nature makes another tax upon the substance of the roots, to produce new lungs; and if these stems be cut off again in about four weeks, the old roots will be so much exhausted that they will turn black and commence decaying. They may, however, send up a few sick-

ly stems; but if these are suffered to grow four weeks and then cut, the remainder of the roots will quickly decay. On the other hand, if the top is cut as soon as it appears, and cut again on its re-appearance, the root will remain, in a measure, unchanged through the season. But if suffered to grow, the substance of the roots or their vitality is brought above ground, in the stem, and may be easily destroyed.

With all such small patches of thistles, I observe this rule; and by the observance of which any patch of thistles may be totally exterminated in one season.

I cut them with a hoe, below the surface of the ground, about the 10th of June. This labor should be thoroughly performed, as it gives them their "death blow." The second cutting about the 10th of July. The third, about the 15th of August. The interval between the second and third cuttings should be about one week longer. When I cut them the third time, if the thistles are in sheep pasture, I sprinkle a little salt on the roots; and then the sheep will take care of any that may make their appearance. A watchful eye should be kept on these patches, lest some may have been over-looked. All such should be immediately cut up.

It not unfrequently happens, when I am harvesting wheat, or oats, that I find now and then a little thistle, just commenced growing, which has sprung from the seed that has been blown there from a kind neighbor's farm. At such times, however urgent my business may be, I stop my work as quick as I would to demolish a black snake, and with the blade of my jack knife, or some other instrument, dig up this little pest. In this way I find little difficulty in keeping my fields free from them.

In those fields where there are abundance of Canada thistles, and where there are no obstructions to prevent deep plowing, I commence the work of total and entire extermination, after this mode, which will never fail to exterminate the last vestige of roots, stolens, and seed, should there be any.

The first step is to prepare the soil for a crop of corn. I prefer corn to any other hoed crop. If the ground where the thistles are is a stiff sward, I plow deep, in September, (the deeper the better.) In October harrow thoroughly, with a heavy harrow. If there is a clover sod on the ground, plow in October and harrow. In the following spring, plow, harrow, and plant with corn, three feet apart each way. Plow the corn thoroughly, both ways twice, and hoe twice. About five weeks after the last hoeing I go through the corn, and cut up the thistles with a hoe. Should they become large enough again, let them be cut a second time. After the corn is removed in autumn, I level the corn row ridges with a two horse cultivator. This is to level the ground, so that, on the next season, the thistles will come up more evenly. Thus

far we have not lost the use of the soil. The next season I let the sheep run in the corn stubble, as they are fond of the young thistle. About the 10th of June I commence plowing the ground for summer fallow. Plow deep, and harrow. The 10th of July commence crossing. If now there should be many lumps of dirt, I use the roller.

It is undoubtedly well known, that roots will not penetrate lumps of dirt; and if a grain of wheat, or even a Canada thistle seed, be placed in them, it will not vegetate. Therefore, my first object in rooling is, to free any seed from those lumps, that it may vegetate then and be destroyed. The second is, to prepare the soil better, for a crop of wheat. About the middle of August, if there is any seed in the soil, it will have germinated. Therefore, I cross plow the third time, which generally uses the Canada thistles, and all other nuisances, completely up. But to be certain that the eradication is perfect, I plow again just before seeding. If the work has been done well, no Canada thistle will ever appear there again, unless some seed or roots are again placed there. I have tried several methods for the extermination of this pest of our country, and I have become fully persuaded that this is the only effectual one. The roots may all be killed in one season by plowing, but my object in working at them two seasons is, to have all the seed vegetate, when they can be easily destroyed.

When I came in possession of my farm, there was on it a piece of new ground, which had been just cleared. Canada thistles had taken possession of it, and had left one year's seed in the soil. I first planted it with corn, and the next season summer fallowed; and during both seasons the seed vegetated as thick as they could stand; but now, not a vestige of them remains. Had I destroyed them merely by hoeing, and seeded the land down, and not have given the seed a chance to germinate, I might have spent years in trying to exterminate them. But, by pursuing this method, keeping the soil mellow two seasons, every seed germinated, and was destroyed.

Lake Ridge, Tompkins co.

**Instinct of Plants.**—Hoare, in his treatise on the vine, gives a striking exemplification of the instinct of plants. A bone was placed at the strong but dry clay of a vine border. The vine sent out a lead or tap root directly through the clay to the bone. In its passage through the clay, the main root threw out no fibres, but when it reached the bone it entirely covered it by degrees, with the most delicate and minute fibres, like lace, each one sucking at a pore like a litter of pigs lugging at their dam as she lies down on the sunny side of the farm yard. On this luscious morsel of a marrow bone would the vine continue to feed, as long as any nutri-

ment remained to be extracted.—What wonderful analogies there are running through the various forms of animal and vegetable creation, to stimulate curiosity, to gratify research, and finally to lead our contemplations from nature, in a feeling of reverence "up to nature's God!"

As to the vine spoken of by Hoare, it is worthy of remark that the root went no farther than the bone, which it seems to have literally smelt out as would a hungry dog in passing.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

### Indian Corn, Butter, &c.

The following observations in relation to Indian corn meal, were communicated to the *Journal of Commerce*, by a physician in the city of New York:—

Yellow and white corn are not the same in quality, although they are identical in kind, and grow in the same field.

The nutritive qualities of the yellow corn surpasses that of the white, and that is a good reason why the common sense of the people, or their ordinary experience, assigns to it a preference, independent of its mere looks.

The investigations of vegetable chemistry have revealed to us an important and interesting fact. By the aid of analysis, it has been ascertained that butter in a pure state is combined in all grass seed and grains.

Out of one hundred weight of yellow Indian corn meal, for instance, a good chemist can extract from eight to ten pounds of butter. Out of the same weight of white meal six or eight per cent of butter can be made, thus proving it to be in that proportion so much the less nutritious quality of Indian meal. Any one can satisfy himself by attending to the usual process of cooking it. When it is boiled thick for mush, if a crust adheres to the side of the vessel, on cooling, it is apt to peel off itself, owing to the fatty material in it.

It has furthermore been proved, that the butter obtained from the milk, is not animal secretion, but what previously existed in the pure and original state, in the hay or food of the cow; and a skillful chemist can make more butter out of one hundred weight of hay, than the cow can, as the cow must appropriate a considerable share of it for the uses and necessities of her organization. Give a cow a hundred pounds of hay, and she will render back eight pounds of butter, but an expert chemist can realize twelve or thirteen pounds out of it.

In the choice of the various articles of food to suit our tastes on particular occasions—to correspond to the multiplied emergencies of life—the adaptation of the multifarious qualities of food display infinite wisdom and goodness. In sickness, in health, in toil, while our means abound, when they are scanty, we demand different kinds of food and different varieties of the same kind to satisfy our real and imaginary wants. Of

the grain stuffs, rice contains the least fatty material, and Indian corn most, and ranging between these two extremities, we have wheat, oats, rye, barley, &c., all different, and yet all of them capable of being applied to the respective conditions which are united to them.

It is because of the fatty nature of Indian corn meal that it is such a strange kind of food, and that persons unaccustomed to it cannot endure it. The nations which feed principally on rice are not near so robust as those which use Indian corn, as the blacks of the south mostly do. Persons unaccustomed to this kind of food, therefore, will do best to commence with the white Indian meal, in preference to the yellow, as it is not so rich; and this preference to the white over the yellow, has already occurred in England where the articles are new.

There is only one more observation which I wish to make. As Indian corn meal contains so much fat in it, kept too long it is apt to become rancid, and is the more or less unfit for use. In the shipments made to the West Indies the meal is commonly kiln dried, to obviate, as much as possible, this tendency to rancidity. For reasons just detailed, the white meal will keep rather better; and from its being lighter and milder, it is as much preferred for use in warm climates as the yellow for similar inducement is in cold.

**The Circle of Fruits.**—Are our farmers or such of them as have abundant means for this purpose—supplied with good fruit during the whole twelve months? Is there any one commodity, more calculated to increase the pleasure of the country, and to render home attractive to young people, than fine, fresh fruit, of ones own raising, during the entire season?

Many have adopted a very erroneous opinion and suppose the "fruit season" to be a small portion of the year. A good selection would extend the period of actual bearing and ripening in the open air, to nearly six months; and such kinds as possess keeping properties, if in sufficient quantity, would supply the other six. The first fruits ripen, even so far north as Albany and Rochester, by the first day of summer and two weeks earlier at Philadelphia and New York. Three varieties of the cherry,—the Early May, May Bigarreau, and Eearly Purple Guigne,—mature simultaneously with the Duke of Kent, and large Early Scarlet Strawberries; a host of other fine varieties of both these kinds immediately succeed them. Currants and Raspberries soon join the list, the Primordian plum, the Amire Joannet and Madeleine pears, and several delicious Apricots on hand by wheat harvest; after which the profusion of peaches, pears, apples, plumbs, grapes, &c., furnish the richest supplies through autumn.—Grapes and pears may be kept till spring, and apples till the succeeding summer. But, let it be remembered

that if the *long-keepers* are not by laid in very liberal quantities, the stores will soon be exhausted. The loss by unavoidable decay, as well as by consumption, must be allowed for. An excellent mode of keeping winter and spring apples, in the absence of a better, was this—"Lock them up in a cool, dry cellar, and hide the key." The error was in the limited supply; its correction, is to supercede the necessity by an abundant store. Every cultivator therefore, while he plants liberally of the earliest ripening varieties, must plant still more liberally of long-keepers; for while the former are soon succeeded by others, the latter must extend their benefits through a long and otherwise dreary period.—*Cultivator*.

### Exposure of Stock.

In the West, it is a common opinion that after the harvest is over, a farmer has not much else to do than to sow his wheat. No season of the year affords better opportunity of laboring than the fall, and none more demands that labor of the farmer. It is not enough that stacks of oats and hay, and cribs of corn are laid up for the winter; but good, dry and warm shelters should be provided for all kinds of stock. It is an excellent notion of the Pennsylvania Dutch farmer that a large commodious barn cannot be dispensed with, but is and must always be the first improvement made, whether it be in his native state or in the backwoods and milder climate of Hoosierdom. But how often have we here seen, when the chilling rains of November and December set in, the stock of most of our best farmers stand shivering in the fence-corners. Such exposure takes from them, very rapidly, their flesh; so that, in the spring, their low condition is a subject of wonder, considering the great amount of food consumed during the winter. Farmers complain that it would be better to sell their grain and hay, even at reduced prices, than to feed it.

A little more knowledge of book farming would acquaint them with the nature of the evil, and suggest the necessary remedy. Leibig informs us that animal heat is created by the union of the atmosphere we breathe, with the blood that passes into the lungs. One of the parts of the atmosphere is called *oxygen*—and it is this which keeps up all fires or burning. Whenever the air has none of this in it, a lighted candle or torch, if placed in it, immediately goes out, as in the air of wells, which is called the "damp." This *oxygen* unites with another substance called *carbon*, which is abundant in oil, tallow, fat, coal, wood, &c. The blood contains large quantities of it; and when the oxygen, breathed into the lungs, comes into contact with it there, a combustion is produced which creates what is called *animal heat*. This warmth or heat is taken to every part of the animal frame by the circulating of the blood, and keeps it from being de-

stroyed by the cold. Carbon is furnished to the blood by the food we eat. If more be furnished than is wanted to keep the body warm, the balance is deposited over the whole body in the form of fat. The warmer the body is kept, the less animal heat is required, and the greater will be the amount of fat. Hence it is that all animals fatten quicker in warm weather and on a less amount of food than in cold weather. The appetite increases with the demand of the body for warmth; and if the body is constantly exposed to intense cold, the stomach will rapidly digest the greatest quantity of food. Hence it is that the people near the North pole can digest a quart of train oil easier than our stomachs can a quart of scup, and yet they are a small race of people, nearly all the nutrition of the food they eat being consumed in making animal heat.

Just so it is with the farmer's stock. If he keeps them well sheltered in warm, dry places less animal heat is necessary to keep them warm and, consequently, they will keep fatter on a much less amount of food, than when constantly exposed. Let the farmer, then, who would have his stock look well in the spring, and that on a moderate allowance of food, now prepare to shelter them. Let him shed around each side of his stable, and closely plank up the sheds. Let him prepare low, broad sheds for his sheep, with a well-filled rack in the middle or at the sides. Let him prepare sheds for his hogs too. Keep them warm and dry, and our word for it, a new race of hogs will soon be seen, which in rapid growth will equal the best of our breeds.

As soon, therefore, as the wheat is sown, (which mostly ought to be, we think by this time,) commence preparing your stables, and sheds and stalls. Do what you can this fall and continue making additions from time to time as you can, until not an animal on the farm but what has its regular place to sleep at night, and can find protection from the rains and snows during the day. And then when this is done, you will acknowledge, that the best day of your life was the day on which you read this short article, and determined to follow the advice here given.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

**Prepare Fuel.**—A great deal has been said on the advantages of using dry instead of green wood for fuel; and so great are the advantages and so obvious are they to every man of observation, that he only needs to think of the subject in order to act for his interest; yet too many pass on heedlessly and find cold winter upon them, and that they are under the necessity of using green wood, and perhaps covered with ice and snow.

This is not only unpleasant in the delay and difficulty of making fires, (and perhaps the vexation of a scolding wife in consequence,) and loss of time naturally attending, but the cost for fuel is almost twice as much as it

would be in furnishing dry wood, well secured from storms.

If wood be split up sufficiently fine for the fire, the latter part of Autumn, or beginning of winter, and piled up so as to be well exposed to sun and air, and secured at the top against storms it will soon dry considerably, though the weather be cold. Green wood thus prepared and exposed will soon be improved to the amount of ten or twenty per cent. In this way there is frequently a great gain in hauling fuel, by reason of less weight, as well as in its improved condition for the fire.—*Ex Paper.*

**Fencing.**—The outer covering of a building is like the outer fence of a field. Any farmer can most readily understand the difference of the expense of fencing square fields and long fields. If an acre of land is but one rod wide it may be one hundred and sixty rods long. To fence such a lot we require 322 rods of fencing material. But an acre that is two rods in width requires but a trifle more than half as much fence—that is, 164 rods—the two sides being one hundred and sixty rods and the two ends four rods. And the nearer a field approaches a square, the less amount of material and of labor will be required.

Any one, therefore, may readily judge how much must necessarily be lost by wide departures from squares when buildings are erected.—*Mass. Plowman.*

**The grape in Texas.**—The Lavaca Herald mentions that Capt. Hutch engrafted a species of the English grape on a vigorous vine of the Mustang kind, and such was the life and vigor infused into the young graft by the parent stem, that in the course of one season it entirely covered a large oak tree, around whose trunk the wild vine had been accustomed to cling for support. The young vine bore the first season, at the lowest calculation 600 bunches of grapes.

**Help Each Other.**—We all need assistance of others. From the cradle to the grave we are dependent creatures. A word or a tear is more effectual at times than the testament of money. Ask him who has had a sad heart, or him who is confined to a bed of languishment. Feel then your dependence upon others, and be ever ready by deed or word to render that assistance which you may need some future day.

**Coffee in Liberia.**—The coffee shrub grows wild in the forests of Liberia. By a little pains that country might soon export large quantities of that article.

**Draining the Everglades.**—Measures are being taken to drain the everglades of Florida. By so doing, a million of acres of fertile land will be added to the arable soil of that State.

# MICHIGAN FARMER.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY—TERMS \$1  
IN ADVANCE—FIVE COPIES FOR \$4.

## To Delinquent Subscribers.

We invite the immediate attention of those of our subscribers who are in arrears for the present volume, to the proposition we have made them upon our last page. If they wish to avail themselves of the advantages we offer them, they must not delay too long.

## Try and See.

Mr. T. B. Castle, of Vienna, Macomb Co. in remitting payment for the Farmer, to which he recently became a subscriber, writes as follows: "It was with great reluctance, that I subscribed for the Farmer, but I am most happily disappointed. I consider it of far more value to the farmer than any weekly newspaper he can obtain."

We might adduce instances like the above almost indefinitely. We have great numbers upon our subscription list, who, like Mr. C. subscribed "with great reluctance," but who have also expressed their happy disappointment, and their gratitude, that they were teased into it.

And there are hundreds and thousands of others, who, if their reluctance can once be overcome, would experience a disappointment equally happy—whether that reluctance arises from a prejudice against book farming in the general, or from ignorance of the claims which the Farmer has upon their consideration for support.

Will not all our subscribers then, who desire to see the improvements in the Farmer which we propose, take pains to circulate it among their neighbors and friends, as the readiest and surest way to procure their names?

There are doubtless at least one or two persons among our subscribers in every township where the Farmer is taken, who feel more than an ordinary interest in this matter, and to those persons we make our appeal, whether they will not ascertain from the post office, how many copies are taken, and see to it, that the number is doubled. They can if they will, and that they will, we have very little doubt. *Try and see.* Will you not?

Suppose you make your calculations to get one subscriber a week from this time forward. There is nothing like system in anything.

## An Incident in Hoosierdom.

Two years ago about this time, we were sojourning, for a time, in that busy little bee-hive of a place, La Fayette, away down in the Hoosier state. It was then the terminating point of the Erie and Wabash canal, which made it the centre of business to a large extent of country. The broad prairies of Illinois, on the West, as well as the fertile and extensive regions which stretch themselves out to the East, to the North and to the South, dotted all over with prairies, teeming with their luxuriant products—all this vast extent of country, covering an area of more than a hundred and fifty miles square, was pouring its treasures into this little mart, for shipment to the East. At every hour in the day, and on every road leading to the city, could be seen wagon loads of wheat and of corn, following each other in close succession, as far as the eye could reach, laboring their way, with slow and measured step, into the place of their destination. Marvellous as it may seem, a thousand wagons, have been counted, as they entered the place, in a single day. And not a wagon load came in, but was boarded by runners before it reached the city.

But we took up our pen to relate an incident. As we were standing one day upon the public square, in the molley group, a horse took fright, broke from his fastenings, and was in the act of running away. Seeing the game the animal was about to play with his master, we spoke to a long, lank looking Hoosier, who stood by our side, and said, "come, let us catch that horse, it will accomodate some man." He replied, "No, I'll be d——d if I do, nobody would catch my horse."

Well, well, thought we, this is Hoosierdom. "Nobody would catch my horse." The horse ran off, and that was the last we saw of him, and his master, poor man! had to trudge all the way home afoot. We never saw his face, but we could not, for the life of us, help thinking what a forlon looking being he was, as he pursued his lonely way over hill and dale, in anxious uncertainty, whether his horse had taken the way home, or gone in some other direction.

And then the chilling thought came stealing over us, that perhaps the poor wretch was suffering the just penalty of his own inhumanity, and certainly he was, if what the others said, was true, that "nobody would catch his horse."

And what sort of a state of things is this, thought we? Where have we got to? Are we in the world, or out of the world? Is this our brother man? Or have we lighted upon some more degenerate orb? And then we heard a voice, saying, "be still, you carry in your own bosom the element which thus transforms the earth into one great bazar house of woe, and no thanks to you if it has not developed itself in the same odious forms." And we covered our face, dropped a tear, and walked slowly and thoughtfully away.

O dear! what a world is this we live in! The beasts of the field, and the birds of the air, dwell together in harmony, and in the exercise of all those kindly affections, of which the God of nature has made them capable. Man alone belies his nature, contradicts and makes war upon the design of his being, and thus transforms this beautiful world, which has been fitted up for his convenience, his comfort, and his enjoyment, as a social being, into an abode of selfishness, misery, and of woe. Gracious Heaven! What a spectacle to look down upon, to bewail, and (if there be tears in that blessed world) to weep over!

In the city, where the population is, in a measure, cut off from communion with the beautiful and the wonderful in Nature, and where the kindly and humane feelings of the heart are killed out by the deadly influences of trade and of fashion, it is not so marvellous, that there should prevail a mutual disregard to the comfort and happiness of each other, and that selfishness should hold its unbroken reign, although, this even, furnishes a dark page in the history of human kind. But that the cultivators of the soil, who stand, as it were daily, in the presence chamber of the great I AM, and are constant witnesses to the movements of his wonder-working hand, all around them, which causes the sun to rise, and the rain to descend, in fertilizing power, upon their fields, and which thus pours into their laps the rich bounties of his providence—that those who daily receive such lessons of their dependance, should be forgetful of the great law of love, which they owe to each other, O it is monstrous!

And yet, how often is it the case, that the most trivial circumstance will set a whole neighborhood in a broil and make it a perfect pandemonium! O shame! shame!

### Things in Suckerdom.

A little more than a year ago, we were sojourning, for a season, in Chicago, the empire city, and the pride, of the Sucker state. There are many things to praise and admire in that young and rising metropolis, but as we are rather in a fault-finding mood just now, we shall be quite as likely to say things which will nettle her pride, as those which would tickle her vanity.

Suppose then, you go with me into the street on an April, day just as the frost is out of the ground, and as you feel the earth giving way from underneath you, and see it rising and swelling, before you and around you, like the waves of the sea, what, think you, would you suppose was going to become of you? But don't be alarmed, not a hair of your head shall be hurt, for you are on an elastic bridge, which shall carry you safely on your way—a bridge, over which many a team waggon freighted with the varied products of the prairies, has safely passed. Do you ask what makes it so? We have told you all we know about it. The surface of the earth seems to be a tough, adhesive mass, overlaying a loose, earthy substance, so charged with water, that it yields to superincumbent pressure, and is forced forward, side ways, and backwards, causing the undulations above spoken of, and which gradually settles away, and the whole becomes compact and solid.

And do you know anything about balloon houses, gentle reader? Yes, balloon houses, for such are the greater part of the houses in that city of twenty thousand inhabitants. And what is a balloon house—do you ask? Well then, suppose you have the foundation for your building laid, and the sills fixed in their places, and then take some small pieces of pine scantling (two inches by four) and set them up endways, the lower ends entering a mortice in the sill, while the other ends are secured by another piece of scantling of the same dimensions, which is nailed to their tops as a sort of plate. Having got the frail thing thus far on the way, all you have to do, is to keep it from tumbling down, until you can nail on the siding, and put on the roof, and you have a building, which is said to be impregnable against the assaults of the most violent winds which ever blow.

And do you know any thing about winds? If you think so, go to Chicago, and find out your

mistake. Only think of the sweep with which the angry blast comes careering down Lake Michigan, for hundreds of miles, from the North and the North-East, and over the prairies for an equal, or still greater distance, from the West and the South-West, blowing from one direction or the other, almost the whole time, and that often, for days together, there is such an incessant blow, blow, *blow*, that it is difficult to walk the street. We have seen ladies blown off the side walk, not exactly like a feather, but more as a ship under sail, is blown out of its course and careened on its beam ends, when struck by a squall.

And then, suppose, that it is a dry time—how far do you think you can see, amid the clouds of dust, shavings, shingles, and bits of boards, which are twirled about over the tops of the highest buildings? Not ten rods, and sometimes not five. Admit further, that the thermometer is up to 90° or 95° in the shade, and that the surface of your body is all in a glow of perspiration, and you stand in the street, as the clouds of prairie dust come sweeping over you, what do you suppose you will look like, in less than thirty seconds? Guess.

And then, the mud, O the mud, the mud, when mud there is! Never was there mud like that mud. But our powers of description fail here, and we must hurry on or sink, to rise no more.

Suppose then, you go along with us four or five miles out of the city, and take a position on some little elevation, (if we can find one) about half a mile from the main road, and what do you see? Why a string of wagons, miles in length, moving like an immense funeral procession, in the direction of the city. And you wait for the last one to pass, and wait, and wait, until you are tired of it, and give up in despair. There is but one road, of any consequence, upon which all the teams from all the prairies of all Northern Illinois, enter the city of Chicago.

Now let us make our way back to the city, and take a look at our prairie friends, and their horses, and their wagons, and the good things they have brought to market. We remember meeting a sturdy farmer from the Wolverine state, in the streets of Chicago, one day, whose shrewd observations we treasured up. He remarked, that the teams which came into Chi-

cago, and the men who drove them, were not like the teams which came into Detroit, and the drivers which came with them. The prairie horses were not so fat and sleek, nor so active and vigorous, as those which are driven into our market, nor had the men that intelligent look, sprightliness of deportment, and tidiness of dress, which characterize the Wolverine farmer, when he goes abroad. To be sure, the former can turn upon us, with an air of triumph and ask, "but have you not just been telling how the clouds of dust are constantly sweeping over the prairies, and setting us to guessing what they make men look like? And if so, what is the use in trying to look like any body, or to be anything, any how?" Very well, so let it be. We will not rob you of this your only consolation?

The quality of the wheat which comes into the Chicago market, is quite of another order from that of the wheat which is produced in the Wolverine state. Last year, was a bad year for wheat there, it is true, but under the most favorable circumstances, the wheat of Illinois, will not compare favorably with that of Michigan.

And do you know any thing about the Chicago blacklegs, which are almost as thick as the grasshoppers of the prairies? We will relate an incident or two to exemplify their audacity. One day, a farmer, who was entering the city with a load of wheat, was accosted by one of the fraternity, a parley took place between them, and a bargain was soon struck, as the gentleman was not at all particular about the price. The farmer was directed to drive to a certain warehouse and unload, and the moment he had finished unloading, the purchaser, who had come along with the team giving directions to the owner, steps into the warehouse, takes the pay and decamps, he having contracted the load before it was driven up, and the keeper of the warehouse supposing him to be the owner. The disappointment and distress of the poor man upon being told, that his load of wheat was paid for, may be more easily imagined than described.

On another occasion, a poor widow, and her son, a youth of some seventeen, had come a long distance to market their wool, it being the entire stock of their surplus produce, and the whole of their available means. They made sale of it and the avails, fifty dollars in money,

was entrusted to the keeping of the young man. Evening came, and as the youth was loitering about an auction store, there steps up to him a pert, well dressed young man, and accosts him familiarly thus, "why, how do you do? When did you come in the city? How have you been all this time? Come, let us take a tramp about the city." The green one went straight along, like an ox to the slaughter, asking no questions, his utterance being perfectly choked by the courtesies, which were lavished upon him. Well, on they went, until they came to a ball alley, into which the unsuspecting youth was conducted by his supposed old acquaintance and friend, (though he had not yet had the courage to ask him where he had seen him) No sooner had he gotten fairly within doors, than he was accosted by his officious friend, and asked, upon some plea, to change a ten dollar bill. The hapless youth, doubtless thinking it a capital opportunity to display the contents of his pocket book, lost no time in thrusting his hand into his pocket and bringing it forth, when to his utter horror, it was immediately snatched from him by a third person who stood by, and who ran out and escaped, leaving the simple one to agonize over his folly—and then, the thought of his mother—how could he see her face? With heavy heart, he wended his way back to the tavern, and told the sad tale. The reader can better imagine, than we describe, the distress which was visible in the countenances of that mother and that son. Here they were, far from home, among strangers, robbed of their last shilling, of all their dependence, and all their earthly hope. O it was enough to move a heart of stone to witness their distress. How gladly would we have made up their loss, and sent them on their way rejoicing, had it been possible! No clue to the money, or the robber, was ever discovered to our knowledge.

But as we are beginning to recover our good humor, we will turn the tables a little, and take a peep at the other side. And we would say, to begin with, that there are more good things in Chicago, than we have room left to praise, or even to enumerate. In no city we have ever visited, is there a healthier moral pulse beating than in Chicago. The foundations of society there, were well laid. Moral and religious influences, are entirely in the ascendant. We will venture the assertion, that there are more

temperance houses in that city, than in any other of its size, in the Union, and further that no city in the Union, of the same size, can boast of such magnificent school houses, any one of which looks more like a college, than a common school house. Nor can any other city present a more respectable array of churches, or more intelligent, orderly, sedate, and attentive congregations.

Such is Chicago in miniature, and such its multifarious population, made up of the extremes in society, the good and the bad, the precious and the vile.

We intended, gentle reader, to have gone with you into the interior, and given you a glimpse of the magnificent prairies of Illinois, if indeed that can be called magnificent, which is absolutely *flat*. We intended also to discourse to you of the soil and productions, the advantages and disadvantages, and the beauties and deformities of prairie land. But our columns are full and we must stop.

For the Michigan Farmer.

FLUSHING, September 28, 1848.

FRIEND ISHAM:—Having been a reader of the Michigan Farmer the present year, and having found much valuable information in it, I intend to become a subscriber the next year. I would have written some useful information on Horticulture and Floriculture, and various other matters, but I was waiting to see what would come. It is my intention to prepare a treatise on the cultivation of the peach, and how to promote its flavor and the longevity of the peach tree.

But my attention was called to the observation of the potatoe rot, which prevail in this part of the country, to a great extent, and after trying various experiments, I flatter myself that I have discovered the true cause of that doleful disease, and also its remedy, which have come under my immediate observation.

I intend to make out a full statement of the facts which came under my knowledge, should it be desired.\*

Most respectfully, your well wisher,

NATHANIEL HOPSON.

\* We hope friend Hopson will forward us a statement of his observations and discoveries forthwith, as one of the instalments due from him to the general fund for the common benefit of all.

### Experiment in Budding, Mammoth Peaches, a good Suggestion.

For the Michigan Farmer.

RAISON 10th Mo., October 4th, 1848.

FRIEND ISHAM:—I should be sorry to withhold anything that properly belongs to the public treasury of knowledge, and as it may possibly be of advantage to some lover of good peaches, to hear of my success in a little experiment I tried this season, I will with thy permission, relate it—being at the house of a friend of mine on the 25th of the 5th Mo., (May) last, while walking round with him to look at his orchard and fruit yard, he showed me a little peach tree of a valuable variety, that had been sent to him from the state of N. York, and set out a few weeks previously. It had no leaves on, and looked as though it hardly knew whether to live or die. Thinking it as likely to do the latter as the former, and that I might possibly save the variety by putting in a few buds from it, with my friend's consent, I cut a little twig from the tree, and on the 27th, put two or three buds into some peach stocks of my own. I have just been measuring the growth from one of those buds, and find the length of the main shoot from the place of insertion, three feet six inches, and the aggregate length of all the remaining branches, (one or two of the largest had been used for budding) eleven feet ten inches, making a top that looks large enough to bear a number of peaches next season, from a bud inserted only four months since.

While on the subject of peaches, let me give the statement of one of my neighbors (Ephraim Ruben, of Raison) of the truth of which I have no doubt, although contrary to my full intention "circumstances prevented" my seeing for myself. He says, he this season raised peaches (Ward's late) of excellent flavor, measuring 12 inches in circumference and weighing one pound. They must certainly have been *free soil* peaches.

The reflection that this is not the proper season of the year to receive practical benefit from a communication of this nature, induces me to suggest that farmers might often find an advantage in pursuing a plan similar to one I adopted a few years since, of keeping a blank book for the purpose of entering memorandas in relation to Agricultural and Horticultural experiments and facts that I thought might be of advantage to me, or were particularly interesting; frequently merely mentioning the journal and page where accounts of them were to be found.

As ever, thy friend,

J. GIBBONS.

### The True Object of Horticultural Exhibitions.

For the Michigan Farmer.

TROY, October 4, 1848.

MR. ISHAM:—Now that the horticultural exhibitions are over for the season, would it not be well for us to look about and see if we can discover any benefit arising therefrom—I do not mean individually, but as a community. As individuals we have exhibited what we had, without much regard to the useful quality of the articles, more perhaps to make a show, and to outnumber our competitors, than from any other motive! Under the plea that we are an infant society, and that a few persons have been obliged to make extra exertions to create an interest in the matter, perhaps it is excusable. But I apprehend that is not the end and aim of this society, but that it is to excite an interest in the culture of valuable fruits, flowers, vegetables, &c., and to introduce and recommend only such as are worthy of cultivation. I would suggest, that the committees should be required to attach comparative returns to articles exhibited another season, that the public may judge in what estimation they are held by the society. I have been led to these remarks more particularly, by noticing that apples were exhibited at the last exhibition in Detroit weighing 24 oz. If apples of this enormous size were equal in quality to those of medium size, it would not be advisable to recommend them for cultivation, as they are very liable to fall from the tree prematurely, and also suffer more injury in transportation, but they are always very inferior in quality, and therefore should be discarded. I hope that others interested will be induced to offer remarks upon this subject, and that some more definite and beneficial plan will be adopted for another season, that the object aimed at by this society may be more fully accomplished. A. C. H.

P. S. Would it not be advisable to hold meetings occasionally through the winter, to compare fruits and other things worthy of notice, in order to become more familiar with them, and also hold consultations upon subjects interesting.

A. C. H.

A lady's beauty depends so much on expression, that if that be spoiled, farewell to her charms; and which, nothing tends more to bring about than a countenance soured with imaginary cares, instead of being lighted up with thankfulness for innumerable blessings.

**Detroit Horticultural Society.**

The third annual fair of this Society took place at Rough and Ready Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, 26th and 27th ult.

**FRUITS EXHIBITED.**

By E. D. Lay, of Ypsilanti.—Monstrous pippin, Tallman's sweeting, Colvert, white gilliflower, red do., white belleflower, Holland pippin green Newtown pippin, Detroit red, Wellington, Roxbury russet, winter do., Carthouse, Fameuse, Baldwin, Priestley, Ortley pippin, black gilliflower, Flushing Spitzenburgh, autumn Swaar, New England sweeting, yellow Newtown pippin, Hooker, spotted pippin, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Ruckman's pearmain, 20 oz. apple, summer pippin, English russet, winter permian, Steel's red winter, glory of pippins, green sweeting, R. I. greening, golden russet, Foxley, Bourassan, Swaar, white Spitzenburgh Pownal do., golden beauty crab, yellow Siberian do., and red do. do. apples.

From R. R. Elliott, Paw Paw.

From J. C. Holmes.—Isabella, Catawba, and black cluster grapes; Easter Beurre pears; Portugal quince.

From H. R. Williams, Constantine.—Fine large peaches and fall pippins.

From C. C. Trowbridge.—Catawba, Beaubien and Wine grapes, Duchess d'Angouleme pear, measuring 1 foot in circumference: and Portugal quince.

From Huff Jones.—Peaches, apples, and 2 varieties of pears, for names; Portugal quince.

From Robert West, Farmington.—2 varieties large apples.

From James Dougall, Amherstburgh, C. W.—Peaches, viz: President, late red rareripe, Prince's paragon, Pavie de Pomponne, orange shape freestone, Bradish's lemon cling, green Catherine, magnum bonum cling, Caroline do., Bellegarde, seedling cling, and three seedling free; Plums—Coe's golden drop, Semiana. Reine Claude violet; Grapes—Catawba, Isabella, green Swiss, Esperionge, white sweet water, and golden Chasselas; Pears—White Doyenne, Glout Moreceau, Napoleon, Passe Colmar Beurre Easter, and Seckel; Apples—Labute, American summer pearmain, Hawthornden, small Pomme Gris, large do. do., Goyeau, Bourassa, Esopus Spitzenburgh, green Newtown pippin, King of the pippins, Baldwin, Bullock's pippin, Alexander, Fameuse, scarlet pearmain, royal russet, Mela Carla, Meswick codlin, Ribston pippin, red Calville, Montreal winter do., white bellefleur, yellow do., Flushing Spitzenburgh, Pennock's red winter, English nonpareil Roseau, Downton pippin, Jonathan, Roxbury russet, Doctor.

From W. A. Bacon.—Peaches—Red cheek Melocoton, incomparable, and Long Island; Isabella grape.

From Cullen Brown.—Peaches—President.

From O. M. Bronson, Waterford.—Apples—

Spur sweeting, Vandevere, middle apple, winter sweet, Holland pippin, Juncating, Jersey sweet, pound do., bough do., R. I. greening, seek no further, golden pippin, do. russet, black apple, strawberry, black gilliflower, L. S. greening, Pennock's red winter, 20 oz. apple, blue pearmain, Talman's sweeting, Philadelphia russet, Rambo, 15 varieties not named; 2 varieties of peach, and 1 of pear.

From A. Clark.—Large clingstone peach, and Isabella grapes; red Siberian crab apples.

From B. G. Stimson.—Pears—Vicar of Winkfield, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Seckel, Passe Colmar, and Duchess d'Angouleme; Quinces—Portugal and orange.

From John Ford.—Peaches—President, Morris white, lemon cling, old Newington, red cheek Melocoton, white rareripe, and one for a name.

From Bela Hubbard.—Portugal and orange quince; 1 variety of peach, and 2 of apples, for names.

From Rev. George Duffield.—Apples—Rambo, Romanite, Harrison, Pennock, fall pippin, and 1 seedling.

From W. B. Wesson.—Osage orange, Seckel and Bezide La Motte pears; 1 do. for a name.

From Almira Whitehead, of Waterford.—Apples—Snow, golden pippin, and five varieties for names.

From S. Smith.—Orange peach.

From H. Hoadley.—4 varieties of apples and 1 of peaches.

From R. E. Roberts.—Isabella grapes, and 1 variety for a name.

From James Allen, Pontiac.—Apples—Romanite, Cheesebro, do. russet, aromatic sweet, Talman's sweeting, Holland pippin, R. I. greening, snow apple, Pennock's red winter, Esopus Spitzenburgh, white heart apple, Detroit red, Juneating, blue pearmain, bellefleur, and two varieties for a name; Pears—American Jargonelle and summer Bonchretien; Portugal quince; Isabella grape.

From Mrs. S. Gillet.—Red, white sweet water, Winne, Hamburgh, and Catawba grapes; French rareripe, blood cling, red cheek Melocoton, incomparable, and lemon cling peaches; hard shell almond.

From J. L. Travers, Mt. Clemens.—White Doyenne pears; Portugal quince; Holland pippin, R. I. greening, 3 varieties of apples not named; 2 varieties seedling peaches, one of them a large and beautiful peach, named by the committee the Macomb peach; Isabella grapes.

From F. Eldred.—Peaches—Morrisiana pound, and 1 not named.

From Jerreh. Scott, Plymouth.—Apples—20 oz. apple, 20 oz. pippin, russet, Esopus Spitzenburgh, black gilliflower, white do. pound sweeting and 3 varieties pears not named.

From Rev. J. W. Ruggles, Pontiac.—Apples—pound sweeting, cheesebro russet, 20 oz. pippin, white sweeting, spur sweeting, black apple

and 2 varieties not named, one of them a very large apple and a long keeper.

From A. C. Hubbard, Troy.—Pears, Stevens' genesee, beurre d'armburgh, Prince's st. germain, verte longue, messire jean, bezi d'la motte; grapes, Alexander, Catawba, bradley, conn purple, and conn black. Quince, orange, Portugal and common; peaches, Albert Gallatin, red cheek melocoton, orange freestone, pine apple cling, and one seedling, pitmaston, nectarine; apples, Steel's red winter, surprise, wine, yellow bellefleur, white gilliflower, yellow Siberian crab, yellow Newtown pippin, pownel Spitzenburgh, Jonathan, snow, Esopus Spitzenburgh, R. I. greening, seek no further, summer queen, pound sweeting, native crab.

*To be concluded.*

### NEW INVENTIONS.

**New Steam Engine.**—The Glasgow Saturday Post describes an important improvement, which has recently been effected on the steam engine by John M'Dowall, Esq., of the Walkinshaw Foundry, Johnston. Mr. M'Dowall, it is very well known, has produced a very great variety of inventions for the improvement of machinery and, amongst others, that of the piston which has long since been spread over the world, and cannot be seen without being associated with his name.—This last, but curious invention: is a small engine, designated the "Parallel-opiped," simply and compactly got up, and, to all appearance, like a steam chest—the whole of the work being wrought in the inside, nothing without being in motion except the governor and a shaft which proceeds from one of the sides of the chest to be connected to whatever gearing it may be employed to drive. A stranger would take it to be an iron box, so little does it resemble the common form of the engine. The advantages the "Parallel-opiped" possesses over the ordinary construction of the high pressure steam engine, as enumerated by the Post are these:—First, it may be purchased at half the cost, second it occupies only one-fifth of the space, and is less than one-fourth in weight; third, its portability or the ease with which it may be carried about from place to place. This curious little engine has a sweet motion, and, when at work, will scarcely be heard going, having little or no friction; it is less liable than others to get out of repair, and can, we are informed, be made to any power. It is admirably adapted for agricultural ends, and is specially recommended for screw propellers, sawing machinery, pumping water, and hauling coals, or for any other purpose where high pressure steam is used. An engine of this description, and of 6 horse power could almost be borne about on a man's back, and is, perhaps, as splendid a piece of ingenuity as has been achieved since the days of Watt.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

**Sewing Machine.**—Morey & Johnson have invented a sewing machine, which is now successfully employed in the different factories of Lowell, and will sew from 2 to 4 yards in a minute, according to the size of the stitch, whether fine or coarse. It is also used by many of the factories of Boston, and many other places in Connecticut. At New London there is one machine which sews 30 pair of pants a day, or, does about half the entire sewing required to make them complete. The machine of Messrs. Morey & Johnson will sew 40 bags per hour, and contracts have been made for making them by this machine at 14 cents per piece. The sewing too is decidedly stronger and more uniform than that which is done by hand, and it will perform in the same space of time about ten times the amount of work which can be done in the usual way. The expense too of making this machine is quite moderate and agencies have already been sold to the Eastern and our own States. An agent, Mr. E. P. Whitmore, who has been appointed for the purpose, for the Southern and Western States, is about visiting the South, to dispose of them in those sections of our country.—*Ib.*

**Garlic and Smut Machine.**—This machine patented by Messrs. Haggel & Gouliart of Baltimore, is said to be a most valuable invention. Though it has been 18 months in operation, and its utility satisfactorily tested by numbers of intelligent and responsible men in various parts of the country, it is not yet so generally known as its merits deserve. It is said to separate from grain of every description, all impurities, —cockle, chess, with caps, garlic, smut, &c., &c. It has thoroughly cleaned 650 bushels of wheat in one day, by passing it only once through, and leaving the grain entirely whole. It is also well adapted to the purpose of rice shelling, and therefore valuable to the rice growing portions of the Southern States.—*Ib.*

**Novel Invention.**—An invention has lately been made, by which umbrella stealing will probably be somewhat checked. A handle is fitted on to the stick, which, when unscrewed, closes and fastens the umbrella together so that it cannot be opened without the handle. The owner unscrews the handle and puts it in his pocket, leaving the umbrella useless to any but himself.—*Ib.*

**Improved Filter.**—A new and original invention has been introduced in England. It is a cylindrical filter, made of stone, and so constructed as to supercede all cleansing. The passing of the water through the stone frees it from all impurities in suspension, and, according to the testimony of an eminent analytical chemist, is calculated to benefit the public health materially. It has been introduced into several government institutions.

## GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

**Strange Affair.**—We put pen to paper for the purpose of recording one of the most singular transactions that ever came to our knowledge. We feel it a duty which we owe to the persons implicated and placed under arrest, variously estimated from thirty to fifty, (many of them our subscribers, and most respectable citizens) to allay the excitement produced in the community, by the affair, by stating the circumstances connected therewith as accurately as we are able to do.

It seems that, on Saturday night last, a car, heavily loaded with valuable dry goods, took fire, a short distance west of this city, but which was not discovered until the train had neared Mt. Pleasant, about six miles distant, when it was stopped, but the fire had made such progress that all efforts to extinguish it were hopeless. The car was detached from the train, broken open, and the goods taken out, many of them in damaged condition. As may be supposed, the light attracted a large number of persons to the spot who assisted in disgoring the burning car of its contents. This was all very well so far,—but afterwards they fell to helping themselves to whatever they could lay their hands upon, carrying the same to their homes. This they continued to do through the night, it is said, against the remonstrances of the agent and key-driver who had been stationed to guard the property, whose honesty is unquestionable. The next day a search was instituted by the proper authorities, and many of the goods found secreted about the premises of various citizens, some in wells, boxes, &c.—and what renders the matter still worse, some denied having any goods in possession, and resisted the search. These are the principal facts of the case.

We are told this was done against the remonstrances of the guard who were placed to protect the goods. If this be true, the act is known to the law as *Highway Robbery*, and nothing else.—*Lancaster (Pa.) Farmer.*

**By the America.**—*The Harvest.*—The crops in the northern part of the kingdom of Great Britain are represented as in "tolerable good condition." In Ireland, the wheat crop would be below the average; oats about an average crop. The crop of barley would be less than usual. It was thought that the damage to potatoes would be most extensive. The crop of grain in England, would, it was thought, fall below an average. The wheat harvest would be light, owing to the wet weather preceding it.—The duty on grain had gradually receded, and markets in Baltic and Mediterranean had stood comparatively high. A demand for Indian Corn, to take the place of potatoes, was expected.

**Elections.**—In Pennsylvania, the Whig governor, (Johnson,) is elected by two thousand majority, and there is a gain of several Whig congressmen. In Ohio, the Democratic candi-

date for governor is elected by about the same majority. The legislature is also democratic by a small majority. In Georgia, there is a whig gain in congressmen.

**Congressional Candidates.**—First District, Geo. C. Bates, whig, A. W. Buel, demo., and C. N. Ormsby, free soil. Second District, Wm. Spragues, whig, Chas. E. Stewart, demo. Third District, K. S. Bingham, demo., Geo. H. Hazleton, whig, J. M. Lamb, free soil.

## ELECTORAL TICKETS.

**Whig.**—Jacob M. Howard, Hezekiah G. Wells, Henry Waldron, Henry B. Lathrop, Hiram L. Miller. **Democratic.**—John S. Barry, Rix Robinson, Lorenzo M. Mason, Horace C. Thurber, William T. Howell. **Free Soil.**—F. J. Littlejohn, I. P. Christiancy, James F. Joy, William Gilmour, S. B. Treadwell.

The late great fire which occurred at Constantinople destroyed about \$15,000,000 worth of property. Ibrahim Pacha was expected to arrive there to adjust tribute money.

**Agents Wanted.**—Wanted a number of intelligent and enterprising men, who can come well recommended, to act as travelling agents for the Michigan Farmer. Good terms will be given.

**TERMS.**—The MICHIGAN FARMER is published at Detroit, twice a month, by WARREN ISHAM, at one dollar a year in advance—after three months \$1 25—after six months \$1 50—after nine months \$1 75. No subscription taken for less than one year, nor discontinued till all arrearages are paid. To clubs, five copies for four dollars. Office, on King's corner, third story.

## DETROIT PRICE CURRENT.

Flour, bbl.	\$4 12½ a	\$4 25	Salt,	\$1 37 a	\$ 1 2½
Corn, bus.	a	50	Butter,	a	12½
Oats,	a	22	Eggs, doz.	a	12½
Rye,	a	42	Hides, lb.	3 a	6½
Barley,	56 a		Wheat, bus.		85
Hogs, 100 lbs.	3 00 a	3 50	Hams, lb.	6 a	6½
Apples, bush	25 a	0 50	Onions, bu.	41 a	50
Potatoes,		41	Cranberries,	a	1 25
Hay, ton,	8 00 a	10 00	Buckwheat 100 lbs.	1 50	
Wool, lb.	14 a	28	Indian meal, "	1 00	
Peas, bu,	a	75	Beef, do	3 50 a	4 50
Beans,	75 a	80	Lard, lb. retail,		7
Beef, bbl.	6 00 a	7 00	Honey,		10
Pork,	10 50 a	11 50	Apples, dried,		1 00
White fish,	6 00 a	7 00	Peaches, do	a	2 00
Trout,	5 50 a	6 50	Clover seed, bu.		4 50
Cod fish, lb.	5 a	5½	Herd's grass do do		1 00
Cheese,	6 a	8	Flax do		75
Wood, cord,	2 25 a	2 50	Lime, " bbl		75

## FRUIT &amp; ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS, VINES, PLANTS, ROSES, &amp;c., &amp;c., &amp;c.

The subscriber offers for sale a large assortment of fruit trees, comprising most of the leading varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches, nectarines, apricots, grapes, &c. together with a large and general assortment of ornamental trees, shrubs and plants, including a splendid collection of the finest new roses and dahlias, which embrace the most beautiful in cultivation.

The green house contains a complete stock of the finest camellias, cacti, geraniums, fuschias, verbenas, lilies and most of the popular and beautiful plants that are usually cultivated; all at very low prices.

As the whole stock (which has been accumulating for the last 8 years) must be removed by the first of May, an opportunity is offered of obtaining trees and plants of large size, at very moderate prices.

WM. ADAIR, Mich. Garden, DETROIT.

*To our Subscribers.*—Those of our subscribers, who are in arrears from the commencement of the present volume of the Farmer, and from whom there is now due one dollar and seventy-five cents, shall be credited for two years, (for the present volume and the next) if they will send us two dollars within a reasonable time. They may remit through the postmasters, or through the mail, for a time, at our risk and expense.

### PROSPECTUS Of the Michigan Farmer. VOLUME VII.

#### Proposed Enlargement.

The seventh volume of the Michigan Farmer will commence on the first of January next. We propose, by the addition of another column to each page, to issue it semi-monthly, in a quarto form, embellished with cuts, and on superior paper, which will give it a place among the largest and cheapest agricultural Journals in the land, the price remaining the same as at present.

But these improvements cannot be made, unless our subscription list is at least doubled, and it is on condition that such an accession is made to it, that they are proposed. It is with the friends of the paper to say whether it shall be done.

We might fill pages with testimonials of the estimation in which the Farmer is held by our brethren of the press, both at the East and the West, and what would be better still, we could present our best agricultural exchanges from the East, (except one or two which circulate pretty freely in Michigan,) occupied, to a great extent, with important articles copied from our columns, no agricultural paper in the Union being more copied from than the Michigan Farmer. But this is unnecessary. Our readers know what the Farmer is, and we are content, that they should judge for themselves.

Say not that it is too soon to begin; it is not too soon. Last year we did not get into the field until it was too late. Eastern publishers had stepped in before us, and we had to content ourselves, to great extent, with their leavings; and yet, though we have labored under this and various other disadvantages, we have been prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations of our friends. What then may we not accomplish with a fair and open field before us? Will the friends of the Farmer then, who wish to see their own agricultural paper taking rank, in amount of matter, in embellishment, and in every respect, with the best in the land, see to it, that its claims are seasonably presented to the intelligent and enterprising farmers of Michigan, and not to the farmers only, but to the mechanic, and the professional man, to every friend of science and of art? And let them begin now, neglecting no opportunity from this hour, to press home upon their neighbors and friends, the importance of sustaining an agricultural paper of their own—one adapted to their necessities, to the peculiarities of their soil and climate, and to the circumstances of a new country, and one which shall become the pride of our young and rising commonwealth.

The usual terms (see terms) will be allowed for procuring names, be the number more or less. None but new names are wanted, it being taken for granted, that the old ones will continue, unless notice be given to the contrary.

We want returns by the first or at the latest by the fifteenth of December, that we may make calculations accordingly. Every thing will depend upon the efforts of the friends of the paper in procuring subscribers.

Terms the same as at present.

WARREN ISHAM.

DETROIT, October 1st, 1848.

### CHOICE FRUIT TREES.

ROSEBANK NURSERY, NEAR AMHERSTBURGH, C. W.

THE subscriber has for sale a most extensive assortment of Fruit Trees, comprising all the desirable and leading varieties, namely—

180 varieties of Apples, at 25 cents each, or \$20 per 100.
120 do Pears, only a part of which, consisting of the most esteemed sorts on Quince and Pear Stocks, will be for sale this fall at 50 cents each.
70 do Peaches, at 25 cents each, or \$20 per 100.
70 do Plums, at 50 cents each, or \$30 per 100.
50 do Cherries, at 50 cents each, or \$40 per 100.
8 do Nectarines, at 38 cents each.
6 do Apricots, on Apricot and Plum Stocks, 50c each.
5 do Quinces, at 25 cents each.
20 do Foreign Grapes, at 50 cts each, or \$37½ per 100.
3 do Native do 35 do do \$25 do

Isabella and Catawba Grapes, one year from cutting, will be supplied at \$15 per 100.

Apples, except of the rarer sorts, two years from root graft, large size, at \$15 per 100.

Also, the best varieties of Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Strawberries, Almonds, Chestnuts, Filberts, &c. at as low rates as they can be procured any where else.

The subscriber would call particular attention to the fact that specimen trees of every variety cultivated have been planted out in his Orchards, which are mostly in a bearing state, and from which the scions are cut; thus offering a guarantee as to the correctness of the kinds, which few nurseries on this continent possess.

Persons unacquainted with Fruits, would be better supplied by leaving the selection of kinds to the subscriber, merely mentioning the number of summer, autumn, and winter varieties, &c., or the kinds they may already have.

Catalogues will be furnished to all postpaid applicants, and the Trees will be delivered in Detroit when required, free of charge and duties. Orders may be forwarded by mail, or left at the store of J. & J. Dougall, Windsor, or Mr. W. C. Day's Variety Store, Detroit.

Also, a fine collection of Tulips, Hyacinths, Dahlias, Roses, and other flowering plants and shrubs.

JAMES DOUGALL.

Rosebank Nursery, Oct. 15, 1848.

**Detroit Nursery and Garden.** The subscriber would call the attention of those who wish to purchase fruit trees this fall, to his nursery, where they can be supplied with fine, thrifty trees, of the best varieties of apple, pear, peach, cherry, plum, nectarine, and apricot, also many kinds of ornamental trees and shrubbery.

Orders may be left at the nursery on the south side of Chicago Road, one mile from the City Hall, or at the store of John Palmer & Co. No. 108 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.

September 20th, 1848.

J. C. HOLMES.

### Fruit Trees.

ELLIOTT & CO.

**Lake Erie Nursery.**—The proprietors of the Lake Erie Nursery, situated one and half miles west of Cleveland, have just issued their new Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., &c.

The stock of Trees now on hand is probably the largest in the Western States, embracing over 200 varieties of Apples, 175 varieties of Pears, over 60 varieties of Cherries, 50 varieties of Plums, over 70 varieties of Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines, Grapes, Quinces, &c.

The stock of ornamental Trees is large and among them are many of extra large size for street planting.

Of Shrubs and Roses, nearly every valuable kind has been procured and is now for sale. Our rate of prices, which is very low, may be found in our Catalogues, which will be sent gratis to every post-paid applicant.

ELLIOTT & CO.

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Lake Erie Nursery, Cleveland, O.

**Dying and Scouring.**—The subscriber, having opened a dying establishment, North side of Jefferson Avenue, (corner of Jefferson Avenue and Shelby Street.) nearly opposite the Michigan Exchange, is prepared to execute orders of every description in his line of business, and in a style which has never been surpassed in the Western country. Shawls, Scarfs, Merinoes, China crapes, and every species of foreign fabric, dyed and finished in the best style. Moreens and Damask curtains, dyed and watered. Gentlemen's wearing apparel scouring, and the colors renovated or dyed, without taking the garment apart.

DETROIT, Oct. 7, 1848.

M. CHAPPELL.